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DALE TO RESIGN DECEMBER 31, GOVERNOR APPOINTS CHANEY INSURANCE COMMISSIONER EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1

Chaney to resign Senate seat, will take Insurance post a few days early

(JACKSON, Mississippi) – Incoming Insurance Commissioner Mike Chaney will be taking office a few days early as Governor Haley Barbour has appointed him to replace longtime Commissioner George Dale, who has resigned effective December 31, 2007.

Chaney, who was elected Insurance Commissioner in the general election last month, will serve on an appointed basis from January 1, 2008, until he is sworn in on January 10, 2008. He resigned his seat in the Mississippi Senate, effective December 31, 2007.

In letters to the Governor, Dale said he would resign effective December 31, 2007, at 5 p.m., about 10 days early, and Chaney said he would resign his District 23 Senate seat effective the same day. Chaney will fill Dale's unexpired term until he is sworn in to his own term as Insurance Commissioner and State Fire Marshal on January 10, 2008.

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